



MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES, STATE OF CALIFORNIA

Violet Varona-Lukens, Executive Officer
Clerk of the Board of Supervisors
383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
Los Angeles, California 90012

Director of Health Services
Director of Public Health

At its meeting held May 25, 2004, the Board took the following action:

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Supervisor Antonovich made the following statement:

“On May 13, 2004, the Daily News reported that 222 red bags, which are designated for medical waste, have been dumped in the Sunshine Canyon landfill in the past 18 months. Many of these bags likely contained only trash, but local inspectors were unable to verify this, because the responsible State Department of Health and Human Services’ (HHS) staff were only able to respond in person to inspect 11 of them. This same issue came up in the year 2000.

“County and State HHS staff met with the Sunshine Canyon landfill advisory committee last week and are working on a report for the next meeting of the advisory committee. HHS staff have offered to delegate some authority to our County staff, but the implications of this for worker safety and landfill regulation have not been analyzed. It is important that all parties work together to address this issue.”

Therefore, on motion of Supervisor Antonovich, seconded by Supervisor Molina, unanimously carried (Supervisor Yaroslavsky being absent), the Directors of Health Services and Public Health were directed to:

1. Work with the State Department of Health and Human Services and the Chief Engineer/General Manager of the County Sanitation Districts to review the issue of dumping medical waste in the Sunshine Canyon landfill; and

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2. Report back to the Board within 30 days with recommendations for any appropriate changes in policy.

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Copies distributed:

- Each Supervisor
- Chief Administrative Officer
- County Counsel
- Chief Engineer and General Manager,
Los Angeles County Sanitation Districts